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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Illinois Development Company  
Attn: Greg Wilson  
6354 North Broadway  
Chicago, Illinois 60660

Re: Emergency Action at A-Chemical Facility,  
1322 N. Western Ave, Chicago, IL

Dear Mr. Wilson:

From January 26 to February 1, 1986, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted an emergency removal action at the A-Chemical Corporation facility at 1322 N. Western Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. The need for action was based upon an EPA determination that efforts to combat a fire at the site on January 26, 1986 resulted in a release of significant amounts of chromic acid onto surrounding streets, and the placement of other hazardous substances in dangerously close proximity to one another on the site. The release of chromic acid and possibility of a release of other hazardous substances presented an imminent and substantial danger to the public health or welfare, and in the absence of your action as a responsible party to correct the situation, EPA's authority to respond according to Section 104 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, & Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. §9604, was triggered.

Under Section 107(a) of CERCLA, responsible parties, including owners and operators of a site, may be liable for any costs incurred by the government in taking corrective actions at that site. Such costs may include, but may not be limited to expenditures for investigation, planning, cleanup of the site, and enforcement. Based on records identifying you as owner of the property located at 1322 N. Western Ave, Chicago, Illinois, you have been identified as a potentially responsible party. By this letter, therefore, EPA intends to notify you of your potential liability with regard to the costs incurred by the agency in undertaking the emergency measures.

You should notify EPA, in writing within seven calendar days from the receipt of this letter, of your willingness to discuss a final resolution of this matter. EPA would like to encourage good faith negotiations between you and the Agency and among you and other parties potentially responsible for the A-Chemical Corporation site at 1322 N. Western Avenue. Other responsible parties at the site include the operator of the A-Chemical facility identified as A-Chemical Corp., 1322 N. Western, Chicago, Illinois.

Your letter should indicate the appropriate name, address and phone number for any further contact with you, and include a statement of your intended action in this matter. The letter and any additional questions, including a request for a meeting, should be sent to:

Roger Grimes (5CS-16)  
Office of Regional Counsel  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
230 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
(312) 886-4247

The facts and legal discussions contained in this letter are intended solely for notification and edification purposes. They are not intended to, do not, and may not be relied upon as a final agency position on any matter set forth herein.

Due to the nature of the problem at this site and the attendant legal ramifications, the Agency strongly encourages you to submit a written response within the time frame specified. We hope that you will give this matter immediate attention.

Sincerely,

Basil G. Constantelos  
Director  
Waste Management Branch